



INTERPRETATION INTERNSHIP- 2013-2014

Do you enjoy interacting with preserve visitors and assisting them in understanding and appreciating the preserve's natural and cultural resources while living and working in beautiful south Florida? As an interpretive intern you would gain experience in presenting thematic interpretative programs, operating visitor centers, and gain knowledge on a variety of topics including wildlife biology, botany, forest ecology geology, and history and park management.

Applicants must be college students or recent graduates majoring in the natural, physical or cultural sciences, communication, education, natural science interpretation, or recreation and resources management. In our training we use the National Park Service Interpretive Competencies Program.

AREA INFORMATION

Big Cypress National Preserve is located in South Florida on Highway 41 just thirty miles east of Naples and seventy miles west of Miami. Temperatures during the winter months are usually in the 80s during the day and 60s to 70s at night. Everglades City, six miles southwest of headquarters, is the closest town, with small grocery, convenience stores, gas stations, and restaurants. The area lends itself to kayaking, canoeing, fishing, birding and many other recreational activities. Check our website:

www.nps.gov/bicy for more area information.

JOB TITLE: Interpretation Intern

DUTIES AND RESPONSIBILITIES

The interpretation staff interacts directly with visitors. Upon completion of training, the job consists of:

- Answering questions at visitor centers
- Providing information to individuals while hiking trails and boardwalks
- Researching, preparing, and presenting interpretive programs
- Being able to talk about the current issues in the park in a professional manner

DATES OF SERVICE: Three to eight month internships year round.

KNOWLEDGE, SKILLS AND ABILITIES

Applicants will be ranked according to their knowledge, skills and abilities in the following areas:

- Ability to work with all age groups
- Ability to work independently and as part of a team
- Skill in enthusiastically sharing knowledge with others
- Ability to communicate effectively, both speaking and writing
- Experience or interest in interpretation and/or environmental education

APPLICANT REQUIREMENTS

- Possess a valid driver's license
- Be able to walk over uneven terrain
- Wear the approved NPS uniform (brown pants, tan shirt and NPS volunteer cap) and observe the same personal appearance standards required of NPS rangers

BENEFITS

- Opportunities for cross-training with other park divisions
- Laundry facilities, a pool and a weight room are also available
- Participate in Interpretive training and learn visitor center operations
- On site government housing may be available at no cost to the intern
- The position is designed to give you first hand workplace experience
- Depending on funding this position may or may not provide a stipend of \$150 per week
- Interns are covered for injuries and liability while on duty by the Federal Workers Compensation Act and Tort Claims Act
- Upon completion of the program, interns will have received the equivalent of a season's experience working for the National Park Service which could be of benefit in applying for future jobs

APPLICATION PROCEDURES

Please mail the following:

- College transcript
- Dates of availability
- Three references, preferably with e-mail addresses
- Detailed resume listing education, work experience and other interests
- Cover letter stating your reason for applying and what you hope to achieve from the internship

DEADLINES – Applications must be on site by September 15 for fall internship (or until filled)

FURTHER INFORMATION:

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